

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1.-41. (Canceled).

42. (New) A data processor comprising:
a reading device which reads an image;
an extracting device which extracts additional data embedded in the image data read by said reading device; and
a decision device which decides, based on the additional data extracted by said extracting device, whether the image data is counterfeited or not.

43. (New) A data processor according to claim 43, further comprising a measuring device which measures an area of a pattern included in the image, wherein said decision device performs the decision by comparing the area measured by said measuring device with the additional data.

44. (New) A data processor according to claim 43, further comprising a counter which counts a total number of pixels in the image having a density equal to or larger than a predetermined value, wherein said decision device performs the decision by comparing the number of pixels measured by said counter with the additional data.

45. (New) A data processor comprising:
a reading device which reads an image;
an extracting device which extracts a plurality of sets of additional data embedded in image data read by said reading device; and

a decision device which decides whether the image data is counterfeited or not, by comparing the plurality of sets of additional data extracted by said extracting device.

46. (New) A method of processing data comprising the steps of:
reading an image;
extracting additional data embedded in the read data; and
deciding, based on the extracted additional data, whether the image data is counterfeited or not.

47. (New) A method according to claim 46, further comprising the step of measuring an area of a pattern included in the image, wherein the decision is performed by comparing the measured area with the additional data.

48. (New) A method according to claim 46, further comprising the step of counting a total number of pixels in the image having a density equal to or larger than a predetermined value, wherein the decision is performed by comparing the measured number of pixels with the additional data.

49. (New) A method of processing data comprising the steps of:
reading an image;
extracting a plurality of sets of additional data embedded in the read image data;
and
deciding whether the image data is counterfeited or not, by comparing the plurality of sets of extracted additional data.